



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

August 24, 2005

News Release

FOUR PREVIOUSLY DEPORTED INDIVIDUALS FOUND IN CONNECTICUT INDICTED

NEW HAVEN, CT- Kevin J. O'Connor, United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut, announced that Caliphah Baltimore, 31, Carlos Velasco-Bouchot, 35, Goncolo Rodrigues, 30, and Felipe Bravo, 30, were each indicted today by a federal grand jury for illegally reentering the United States after having been deported.

According to the Indictments, the four illegal aliens were found in Connecticut earlier this year after having been previously deported and removed from the United States. Baltimore was deported on Jan. 11, 2003 following her April 23, 1998 felony conviction in Conn. State Court for assault in the second degree; Velasco-Bouchot was deported three times, on Dec. 12, 2000, April 15, 2003, and Aug. 4, 2004; Rodrigues was deported on April 22, 1999 following his June 28, 1994 conviction in Conn. State Court for larceny in the second degree; and Bravo was deported on Nov. 26, 2002 following his March 13, 2001 felony conviction in New York State Court for attempted robbery in the first degree. Baltimore, Rodrigues, and Bravo are currently in State prison. Velasco-Bouchot is in federal custody awaiting deportation.

U.S. Attorney O'Connor explained that anyone ordered deported from the United States must have the express consent of the U.S. Attorney General or his successor, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, before re-entering the United States. The Indictments allege that no consent had been given to the four defendants to re-enter the United States.

If convicted of this charge, because they were convicted of aggravating felonies prior to being deported, Baltimore, Rodrigues and Bravo each face a maximum term of imprisonment of 20 years and a fine up to \$250,000. Velasco-Bouchot faces two years of imprisonment and a fine up to \$250,000.

U.S. Attorney O'Connor stressed that an indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. Each defendant is entitled to a fair trial at which it is the Government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

These cases are being investigated by the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys John H. Durham, William J. Nardini, and Peter S. Jongbloed.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.